National Finance Center Customer Notification

Date of Notification: March 17, 2009

Subject: NFC Agency Security Officer (ASO) User Group Presentation

Database/Customer(s) Affected: Agency Security Officers

Dear Customer:

The presentation given at the ASO User Group Meeting in Washington, DC on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 has been posted on NFC's homepage. You can find the presentation at Customer Support, Publications, Presentations, or at the following URL:
http://i2i.nfc.usda.gov/Customer_Support/Presentations/Presentations_home.html.

Additional notes from the ASO User Group Meeting are listed below:

- ASO should send their contact information to ISPCS.SUPPORT.REQUEST@usda.gov mailbox.
- A brief overview of Identity Access Manager (IAM) and Role Based Security will be added to quarterly ASO training classes.

   SecureAll
- After implementation of SecureAll, ASOs will be able to reset user passwords on the Reporting Center.
- An update of SecureAll access request processing and implementation will be sent to ASOs.
- ASOs will be informed of what is required on SecureAll access requests.

TIP OF THE WEEK

NFC Publications include system procedure manuals and bulletins, as well as related materials including brochures, quick reference guides, presentations, etc. These are stored on NFC's Homepage at www.nfc.usda.gov under the Publications tab.

- NFC will provide centralized ASO notifications for training, presentations, and meetings through the Client Management Branch.

Role Based Security
- Agencies should inform NFC if they are ready to begin implementation into Role Based Security.
- Role Based Security is a prerequisite to Identity Access Manager.
- Some NFC organizations were reluctant to enter Role Based Security, but found it to be a much more efficient way of operation.
- Organizations must define the access needed to perform job functions; they cannot default to access already given.
- Steps for Role Based Security:
  o Identify relevant business functions
  o Associate business functions to roles (consider separation of duties, need-to-know and least privilege)
  o Identify the applications or other resources required to perform the business functions of the role
  o Develop implementation schedule with NFC
  o Validate security access associated with new "role-based" user ID
  o Consolidate security access issues and report them to NFC mailbox defined for your agency
  o Convert initial group of users (rename "role-based" user ID to existing user ID) and monitor access
  o Convert remaining users and monitor their access

Identify Access Manager (IAM)
- IAM will not use e-authentication. Users should use their regular NFC userid and password.
- IAM will allow managers to grant their employees and contractors access to pre-defined roles.
- Contractors must have a contract expiration date entered to limit the access period.
- Access will be granted instantly in IAM within 5 days.
- Users will get a default user ID and e-mail address (NFC-only) by their Human Resources department.

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- Managers or Supervisors will act as Delegated Admins, who can request access on behalf of their employees.
- Delegated Admins can assign users to a role under their authority.
- Users can be a member of no more than one role.
- Each agency must define their workflow, consisting of who can initiate and approve or reject access requests.

Please note that you can send an email to ISPCS.SUPPORT.REQUEST@USDA.GOV to have your name added to the ASO distribution list. In the future, we will send out a request for contact information for all ASOs. The information requested will include name, phone number, e-mail address, and user ID.

Also, please be aware that we will send an update on the status of the implementation of the SecureAll application soon.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact the NFC's Client Management Branch at Customer.Support@usda.gov.

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